PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Masaki MORONUKI

Serial Number: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: May 8, 2001

For: AMORPHOUS HARD CARBON FILM, MECHANICAL PARTS AND METHOD FOR

PRODUCING AMORPHOUS HARD CARBON FILM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 Sir:

May 8, 2001

Prior to calculation of the fee and examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 4 and 6-12 to read as follows:

part having a sliding portion, 4. (Amended) Mechanical sliding portion is coated with an characterized in that the amorphous hard carbon film mainly comprising carbon and hydrogen and metal oxide.